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27. — *Woman's Rights under the Law. In Three Lectures, delivered in Boston, January, 1861.* By CAROLINE H. DALL, Author of "Woman's Right to Labor," "Historical Pictures Retouched," &c., &c. Boston: Walker, Wise, & Co. 1861. 16mo. pp. 164.

THESE Lectures are entitled, respectively, "The Oriental Estimate and the French Law," "The English Common Law," and "The United States Law, and Some Thoughts on Human Rights." They are chiefly historical, and the writer's aim is to illustrate the civil disabilities and privations to which woman has been subject in time past, to show how little the improved legislation of the present day has done for her, and to appeal to the general conscience in behalf of her entire emancipation from pupilage and bondage. The book will be read by the friends, and ought to be read by the opposers, of the cause of which Mrs. Dall is a foremost advocate; for it consists mainly of facts, that is, of statutes, decisions, and legal *dicta*, which are quoted in their very words, and with references to the authorities whence they are taken. We are not among those who desire to see women on the bench, in the senate, or at the hustings; yet we contend that their plea should not be dismissed unheard. With reference to property, the English common law certainly produces many hard cases for the wife; but the entire separation as to pecuniary interests between husband and wife, we can easily conceive, might lead to much greater mischief in marring the harmony of families, and introducing potent elements of strife into the household. This, however, must be admitted:—Legislation might in many cases interpose for the protection of wives, either by express statute, (as has already been done in many of the States of our Union,) or by investing the proper tribunals with an extensive equity jurisdiction, by which we mean, not equity in the technical sense, but the power of doing right where the letter of the law would do wrong. At any rate, the subject merits careful consideration, and we commend Mrs. Dall's book as an able and thorough statement of the case on one side, which claims respectful heed, and by no means merits being dismissed with a sneer.

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28. — *First Principles of Ethics. Designed as a Basis for Instruction in Ethical Science in Schools and Colleges.* By J. T. CHAMPLIN, President of Waterville College. Boston: Crosby, Nichols, Lee, & Co. 1861. 12mo. pp. 204.

WE took this book in hand, expecting that it would meet our approval, but without the thought that it was other than an addition to the number of what the author calls "the many excellent treatises on